China's claim over Arunachal Pradesh

† 4542. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 3141 answered in the Rajya Sabha on 21st April, 2005 and to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that borders of Arunachal, Mizoram and Uttaranchal have become insecure with the announcement made by China regarding disputed boundary of the two countries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening of more road links with Pakistan

† 4543. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talk has been held with Pakistan in respect of opening more road routes apart from starting bus services on the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad route;

(b) if so, the details there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b): During the visit of Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf to India from 16 to 18 April, 2005, agreement was reached to increase the frequency of the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service and allow trucks to use this route to promote trade. It was also decided to operationalise additional routes, including that between Poonch and Rawalakot, and to start early a bus service between Amritsar and Lahore and to religious places such as Nankana Sahib. The bus service will be operationalised after working out technical details between the two countries. The technical level talks with Pakistan are likely to be held in the second week of May, 2005.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.